

**SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Melvin Simon.

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**DELPH**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Melvin Simon.

*Whereas, Melvin Simon passed away on September 16, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Bren, and his children, David, Deborah, Cynthia, and Tamme;*

*Whereas, Mel was born in Brooklyn, NY on October 21, 1926. He was raised in the Bronx and graduated from the Bronx High School of Science. He later attended City College of New York where he earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting, and a master's degree in business administration;*

*Whereas, Simon came to Indiana in 1953 after being drafted by the United States Army. He was stationed at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis;*

*Whereas, After separating from the Army, Simon stayed in Indianapolis where he worked for a developer of strip shopping centers. Within a few years, Mel, joined by his brothers, formed Melvin Simon & Associates, a company with a focus on shopping centers;*

*Whereas, Simon's business soon expanded and would eventually become the top mall developer in the United States. He was vital in the resurgence of downtown Indianapolis in the mid-1990s. He championed the*



*development of Circle Centre Mall and went on to purchase the Indiana Pacers basketball franchise with his brother, Herbert;*

*Whereas, With the success of his business ventures, Melvin Simon and his wife, Bren, began a tradition of giving back to the community which continues today;*

*Whereas, The Simons have consistently given to Indiana University. In 2004, the Simons donated \$9 million to IU for a life sciences research building. They have also provided funding for many projects, including the Bess Meshulam Simon Music Library and Recital Center and the Helene G. Simon Hillel Center;*

*Whereas, The Simons later donated \$50 million to the Indiana University Cancer Center, which is now named the Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center. The Cancer Center's mission is "to advance the understanding, prevention and treatment of cancer throughout Indiana and the world with patient-centered care, acceleration of promising science and collaborative educational programs." According to the University, Mel and Bren Simon have contributed over \$70 million to IU throughout the years;*

*Whereas, The Simons have also funded various projects at local hospitals. The family donated \$40 million to Riley Hospital for Children to help complete Riley's Simon Family Tower. A gift to St. Vincent Health that same year went to complete an outpatient center named for Joshua Max – Mel and Bren's late son;*

*Whereas, The Simons' donations extended to the Indianapolis Museum of Art, to which they gave a \$10 million gift to endow the museum's director and chief executive officer;*

*Whereas, Simon's philanthropy and business prowess earned him many awards and accolades, including: the*



*Jewish Welfare Federation's "Man of the Year", The Horatio Alger Award, and places in the Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame and the Real Estate Legends Hall of Fame at the USC School of Urban Planning and Development. Simon also earned an appointment as "Lifetime Trustee" of the Urban Land Institute;*

*Whereas, In addition to the degrees he earned as a student, Simon holds honorary doctorates from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business and Butler University; and*

*Whereas, Melvin Simon has truly made Indianapolis the city that it is today. While he will be remembered as a superior businessman, his true legacy will be of a tireless philanthropist. The void left with Mel's passing is not one that will soon be filled: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

1           SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly memorializes  
2           Melvin Simon and acknowledges the numerous contributions he and  
3           his wife, Bren, have made to the state of Indiana.

4           SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to  
5           transmit a copy of this Resolution to Melvin Simon's wife, Bren Simon,  
6           all of his children, and the Mayor of the city of Indianapolis.

